

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

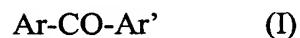
1. (Canceled)

2. (Currently Amended) Material Composition according to Claim-17,

wherein at least 50%, ~~and in particular at least 60%~~ of the units of the said polyimide include at least one group Ar-X-Ar'.

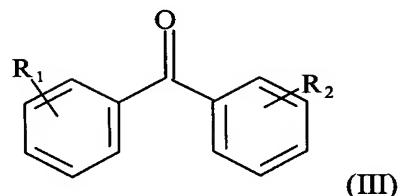
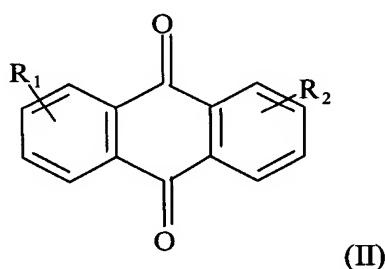
3. (Currently Amended) Material Composition according to Claim-17, having at least one of the following features:

- the said -CO- group is present in a divalent or tetravalent group of formula I



where Ar and Ar' represent each independently an optionally substituted monovalent or divalent aryl group;

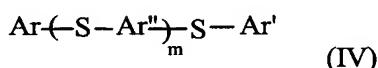
- the said -CO- group is present in a divalent or tetravalent aromatic group of formula II or III



where R₁ and R₂ represent independently H or one or more substituents.

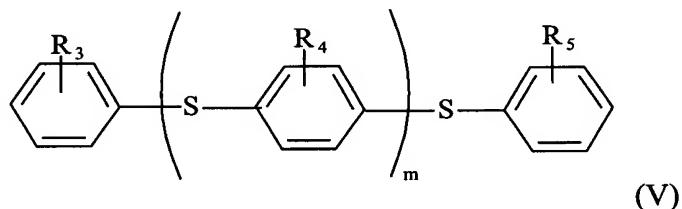
4. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) Material-Composition according to Claim 17, having at least one of the following features:

- the said -S- group is present in a divalent or tetravalent aromatic group of formula IV



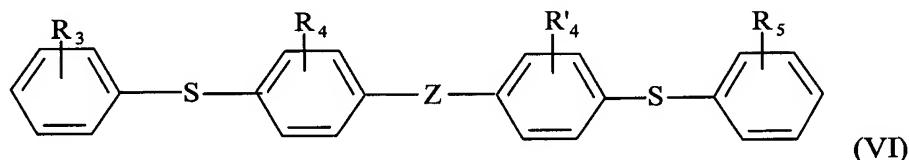
in which Ar and Ar' each represent a monovalent or divalent aryl group, Ar'' is an arylene group, m is the number zero or an integer 1 or 2, and the groups Ar, Ar' and Ar'' are optionally substituted;

- the said -S- group is present in a divalent or tetravalent aromatic group of the formula V



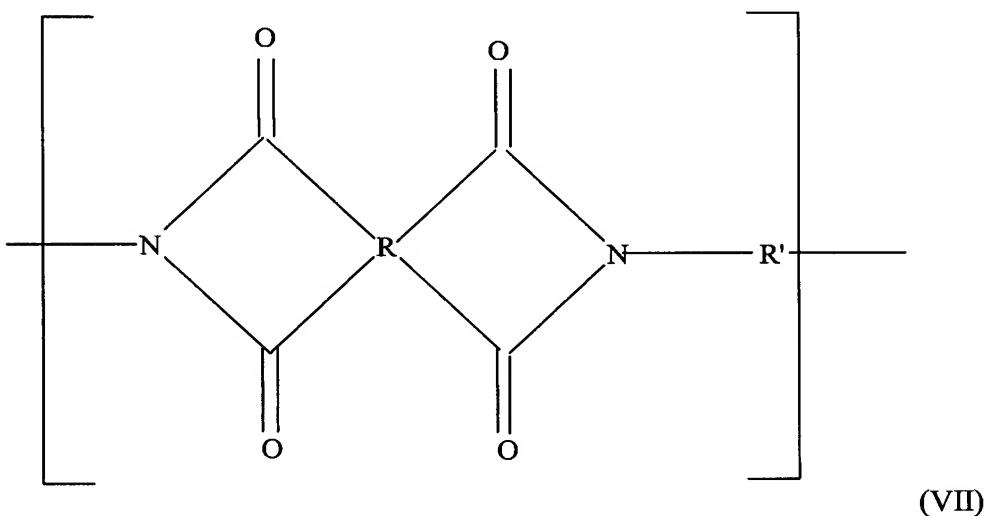
in which R₃, R₄ and R₅ represent independently H or one or more substituents and m is a number 0, 1 or 2,

or of formula VI



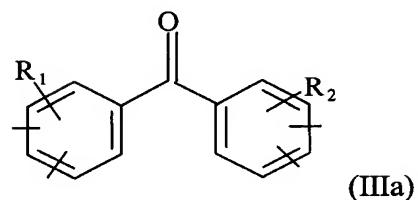
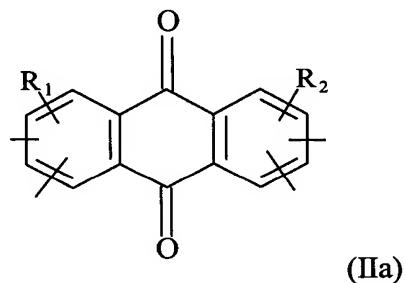
in which R₃, R₄ and R₅ are defined as above, and R'₄ represents H or one or more substituents, and Z represents a covalent bond or a -CH₂-, -CH(CH₃)- or -C(CH₃)₂- group.

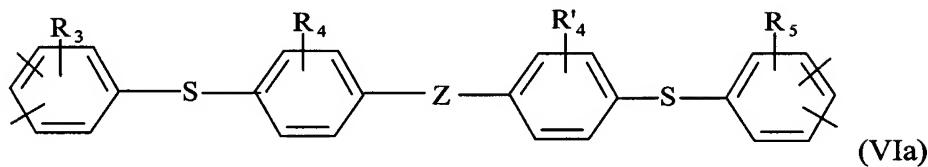
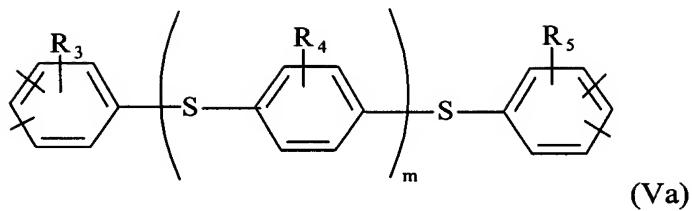
5. (Currently Amended) Coating material Composition according to Claim 4
 17, wherein the polyimide includes units of formula VII



in which R represents an optionally substituted tetravalent aromatic group and R' is an optionally substituted divalent aromatic group, and in which at least one of the groups R and R' includes at least one group Ar-X-Ar' ~~as defined in any one of the preceding claims.~~

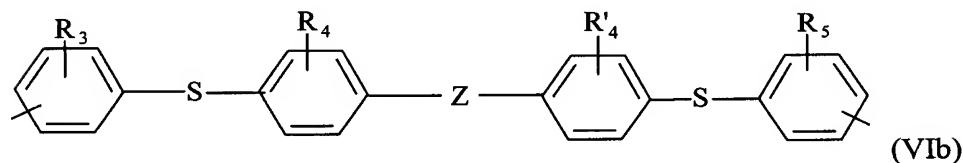
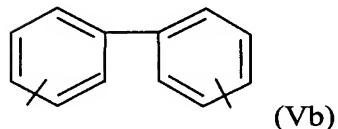
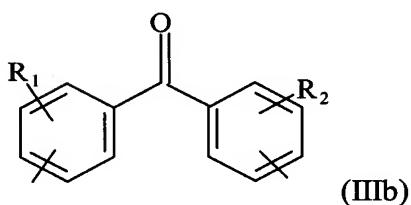
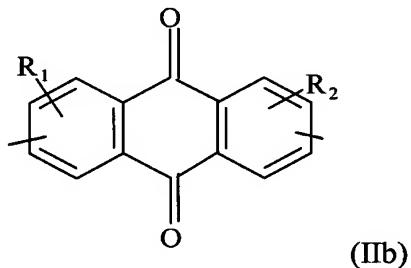
6. (Currently Amended) Material Composition according to Claim 5, wherein R represents at least one of the tetravalent groups of formula IIa, IIIa, Va or VIa





where R_1 , R_2 , R_3 , R_4 , R_5 and R'_4 represent independently H or one or more substituents, Z represents a covalent bond or a $-CH_2-$, $-CH(CH_3)-$ or $-C(CH_3)_2-$ group, and the free valencies are positioned ortho with respect to one another.

7. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) Material Composition according to Claim 5, wherein R' represents at least one of the divalent groups of formula IIb, IIIb, Vb or VIb

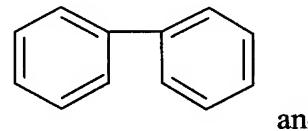
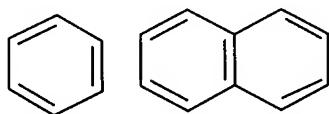


where R₁, R₂, R₃, R₄, R₅ and R'₄ represent each independently H or one or more substituents, and Z represents a covalent bond or a -CH₂- , -CH(CH₃)- or -C(CH₃)₂- group.

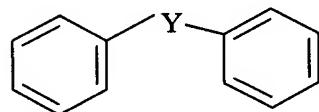
8. (Currently Amended) Material Composition according to Claim 5, wherein either the groups R, or the groups R' include groups Ar-X-Ar' as defined in any one of Claims 1 to 4, and the other groups (either R' or R, as appropriate) do not contain such groups.

9. (Currently Amended) Material Composition according to Claim 8, wherein the said other groups are divalent (in the case of R') or tetravalent (in the case of R) aromatic groups containing cyclic groups derived from benzene or from naphthalene, which are optionally substituted by halogens, lower alkyls and lower haloalkyls.

10. (Currently Amended) Material Composition according to Claim 9, wherein the said other groups have at least one of the following structures:



and



in which Y represents -CH₂- , -CH(CH₃)- or -C(CH₃)₂- and the rings are optionally substituted by halogens, lower alkyls or lower haloalkyls.

11. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) Material Composition according to Claim 4-17, further containing from 0.5% to 3% of a metal salt or oxide which inhibits electrical arc tracking.

12. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) Material Composition according to Claim 10, wherein the electrical arc tracking inhibitor is selected from alumina, zinc oxide and zinc borate.

13. (Currently Amended) Material Composition according to Claim-17, having at least one of the following features:

- it further comprises a white or ~~coloured~~ colored pigment;
- the fluoropolymer is PTFE;
- it is in the form of a tape.

14. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) Manufactured product coated with a material composition as defined in Claim-17.

15. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) Use as electrical arc tracking inhibitor in fluoropolymer Fluoropolymer-based coatings comprising as additive inhibitor at least one polyimide as defined in Claim-17 of a filler selected from ~~aluminium~~ aluminum, zinc oxide, zinc borate and mixtures thereof.

16. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) Use Fluoropolymer-based coatings according to Claim 15, wherein the said inhibitor is present at from 0.5% to 3% by weight, relative to the weight of the said coating.

17. (New) A composition comprising a fluoropolymer-based coating material including an additive in an amount of from 0.5% to 5% by weight of the coating material of at least one polyimide comprising repeating units which include at least one group Ar-X-Ar', in which Ar and Ar' represent independently an optionally substituted monovalent or divalent aryl group and X represents a -CO- or -S- group, the said polyimide being essentially free from heteroatoms or heteroatomic groups other than -S- and other than the imide groups, and wherein the composition is laser markable.

18. (New) A composition according to Claim 17, comprising fluoropolymer in an amount of at least 95% by weight of the coating material.

19. (New) A composition according to Claim 17, wherein at least 60% of the units of the said polyimide include at least one group Ar-X-Ar'.